



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration/500 West Temple Street, Room B-50/Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

MEMBERS

Paul A. Jacobs
Chair

Ann Jackson
Vice Chair

Nelson L. Atkins
Clifton Albright
Annie Y. Huang
Bertrum CeDillos
Andrew Friedman
Gary L. Barr
William J. Galloway
Neal S. Millard
Sylvia Scott-Hayes
David C. Voss, Jr.
Dennis P. Zine

MINUTES OF THE 696th MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 696th meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on September 11, 2008 in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those present follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Clifton Albright
Gary L. Barr
Andrew Friedman
William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
Neal S. Millard
David C. Voss, Jr.
Dennis P. Zine

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Nelson L. Atkins
Bertrum CeDillos
Annie Y. Huang
Sylvia Scott-Hayes
Paul A. Jacobs

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Heather Aubry, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
Laura Green, Office of the Public Defender
Bernard Barber, Detective, Los Angeles Police Department

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court Representative
Margaret Little, Superior Court Representative
James Endman, Superior Court Representative

GUEST(S)

None

STAFF

George Britton, Commission Staff
Mireya Rivera, Commission Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Jackson called the 696th regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was lead by Ex-Officio Member Aubry. Introductions of Commissioners, Ex-Officio Members and guests followed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 14, 2008

On motion of Commissioner Millard, seconded by Commissioner Albright, and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of August 14, 2008 were approved as submitted.

OCTOBER 9, 2008 COMMISSION MEETING RESCHEDULED

At the last Commission meeting, Chair Jacobs requested moving the October 9, 2008 regular meeting of the Commission to October 16, 2008 due to the Jewish Holiday, Yom Kippur.

On motion of Ex-Officio Member Aubry, seconded by Commissioner Albright, and unanimously carried, the meeting was moved to October 16, 2008.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Safe Child Custody Exchange Program Update

Vice Chair Jackson reported the following:

- Justice Deputy Anna Pembedjian, Fifth Supervisorial District, scheduled a follow-up meeting for September 22, 2008 to meet with Chair Jacobs and Bea Dieringer, District Attorney's Office, to learn more about the program. Deputy Pembedjian will provide additional information about alternative funding sources and social services agencies in the area.
- On August 18, 2008, Chair Jacobs gave a presentation to the Help Children Foundation in the San Fernando Valley and requested financial assistance. The Foundation was supportive of the project and while unable to provide funding they did commit to providing some furnishings for a future site.
- The Los Angeles County Bar Foundation awards grants annually. The deadline for submitting an application is March 10 and the grants are awarded the second week of June. About 70-75% of the funds available are distributed to four public service projects the Bar Foundation operates.

These projects include: Dispute Resolution Services, Barrister Aids Legal Services, Barrister Domestic Violence Legal Services and Immigration Legal Assistance. The remaining 25-30% is available for grants from other applicants. Approximately 16 to 20 Los Angeles County based organizations apply each year, typical grants are in the range of \$1,000 to \$5,000 and they favor programs that provide free or low cost legal services for individuals who otherwise cannot afford them. Grants are limited and reapplying annually is not a guarantee that funding will be received for subsequent years. Vice Chair Jackson further stated that the Commission will be contacting the Chair of Los Angeles County Bar Foundation in December to obtain the most recent grant application guidelines.

- Chair Jacobs met with the Chair of the Women Lawyer's Association of Los Angeles who is supportive of the project and recommended to target foundations whose mission is stopping domestic violence. She also suggested the State Bar Association which offers grant funding.
- Commissioner Barr reported that Valley Community Legal Foundation grant process begins in January and the funds are awarded in March.
- Vice Chair Jackson reported that Eva Estrada, Director of Family Services, Bienvenidos has decided to not be a service provider for the Safe Child Custody Exchange Program. On August 21, 2008 Chair Jacobs, Bea Dieringer and Mark Delgado, Executive Director, Countywide Criminal Justice Coordinator Committee met with Georgia Thompson from Bienvenidos to discuss methods of getting the program reinstated. Ms. Thompson suggested Bea Dieringer contact Alma Golla the Child Service Administrator of the Dependent Children and Family Services Agency, which services children who are subject to visitation exchanges. There was some discussion on the feasibility of the Safe Child Custody Exchange Program fitting under the Dependent Children and Family Services Agency. Bea Dieringer was to follow-up with Alma Golla regarding the program. Georgia Thompson from Bienvenidos reported that the Office of Violence Against Women is accepting new proposals for funding.
- Margaret Little, Superior Court Representative, reported that she spoke to three social service providers in the area who are interested and would like to speak further with the Commission about the program. Commissioner Zine suggested contacting the City of Los Angeles, Child and Family Guidance for opportunities. In Addition, Commissioner Zine suggested contacting Jeff Carr at the Mayor's Office.

Diversity on the Bench Initiative

Hold for next month's Commission meeting.

Public Guardian Program

Margaret Little, Superior Court Representative, reported the following:

- Probate Investigators oversee conservators who take care of conservatees. The conservatees are usually the elderly who cannot care for themselves any longer or cannot make decision for their personal care. Many of the conservatees are indigent and often times there is something rather small they would like to have that will enhance their quality of life. For example, reading materials or a small plant. Ms. Little suggested establishing a trust fund to grant request for small items requested by conservatees. Ms. Little stated that \$6,000 per year would allow ten conservatees per month a \$50 request granted. Commissioner Voss suggested the Rotary Club may be a source of funding and he promised to look into it.

Vice Chair Jackson inquired who would be in charge of administering the trust fund. Ms. Little suggested that the Los Angeles County Public Guardian Circle may be interested in administering the trust fund. Chair Jackson suggested contacting Guardian Circle to determine their willingness to administer the trust fund and report back to the commission.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the 696th meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission adjourned at 1:03 p.m.